



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Paul E. Massod  
 Serial No. : 09/334,574  
 Filed : June 21, 1999  
 Title : VERIFICATION PROCESS FOR DRY CLEANERS AND THE LIKE

Art Unit : 2876  
 Examiner : Lee, D

Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

#7/A (A)  
 TECHNIQUE  
 STOP  
 5/18/01  
 2000

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed December 6, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Rather than using an expensive apparatus to regroup items this invention is directed to an apparatus and method to verify that grouping was done correctly, whether grouping was done manually or by an automated process. A large dry cleaning operation may have several people doing assembly. An automated grouping system could provide improvements in speed and accuracy and save on needed labor. For most dry cleaning operations this is not a great advantage. Most dry cleaning establishments are small having one or at most two people doing assembly. Therefore, the typical dry cleaner has would not save on labor with an automated grouping system.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 5 and 17.

Please amend the claims as follows:

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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